



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**
Douglas B. MacDonald
Secretary of Transportation

September 25, 2003

Northwest Region / Mount Baker Area
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Mr. Allen J. Fiksdal, Manager
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
P.O. Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

SUBJECT: SR-548 MP 5.93 Vic. CS 3750 JA 4746
BP Cherry Point Cogeneration Project
Draft Environmental Impact Statement Review

Dear Mr. Fiksdal:

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the subject project dated September 5, 2003.

We concur with the findings of section 3.15, Traffic and Transportation, as presented. Of particular importance to WSDOT is the need for installation of a traffic signal with railroad pre-emption at the intersection of Grandview Road/Portal Way, and left turn channelization at the intersection of SR 548 and Blaine Road.

In the past, WSDOT has found that interconnection of Railroad crossings with traffic signals can be a lengthy process to plan and implement with BNSF. In an effort to facilitate BP's construction of the signal at the intersection of SR 548 and Portal way in a timely manner, WSDOT has taken the liberty of entering into discussions with BNSF. During these discussions, it has been determined that the cost to BP for interconnection of the proposed signal to the Railroad crossing by BNSF will be \$60,233.00. In an act of good faith, WSDOT has advanced this cost to BNSF in expectation of eventual reimbursement by BP as discussed in WSDOT's meeting with BP personnel on June 12, 2003.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Roland Storme of our Development Services section at (360) 757-5961.

Sincerely,

Todd L. Harrison, P.E.
Assistant Regional Administrator
Northwest Region/Mount Baker Area

RS:rs

cc: Mike Torpey, BP
Todd Carlson, WSDOT

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OCT 08 2003

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